

**Senate File 2203 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2203

BY OLIVE, BLACK, and HANCOCK

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act exempting certain entities from being required to  
2 solemnize, celebrate, or promote a marriage.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 595.21 Exemptions — solemnization  
2 or celebration of a marriage — promotion of marriage.

3 1. A religious organization, an individual who is  
4 managed, directed, or supervised by or in conjunction with a  
5 religious organization, or a nonprofit organization operated,  
6 supervised, or controlled by or in conjunction with a religious  
7 organization, shall not be required to provide services,  
8 accommodations, advantages, facilities, goods, or privileges to  
9 an individual if the request for such services, accommodations,  
10 advantages, facilities, goods, or privileges is related to the  
11 solemnization of a marriage, the celebration of a marriage,  
12 or the promotion of marriage through religious counseling,  
13 programs, courses, retreats, or housing designated for married  
14 individuals, and such solemnization, celebration, or promotion  
15 of marriage would cause the organization to violate the  
16 sincerely held religious beliefs to which the organization  
17 subscribes or the individual to violate the individual's  
18 sincerely held religious beliefs.

19 2. Refusal to provide services, accommodations, advantages,  
20 facilities, goods, or privileges in accordance with this  
21 section shall not result in either of the following:

22 a. Creation of a civil claim or cause of action.

23 b. An action by the state to penalize or withhold benefits  
24 from such religious organization; from an individual who is  
25 managed, directed, or supervised by or in conjunction with  
26 such religious organization; or from a nonprofit organization  
27 operated, supervised, or controlled by or in conjunction with  
28 such religious organization.

29 EXPLANATION

30 This bill provides an exemption for religious organizations;  
31 individuals who are managed, directed, or supervised by or  
32 in conjunction with a religious organization; and nonprofit  
33 organizations operated, supervised, or controlled by or in  
34 conjunction with a religious organization, from a requirement  
35 to provide services, accommodations, advantages, facilities,

1 goods, or privileges to an individual if the request for such  
2 services, accommodations, advantages, facilities, goods, or  
3 privileges is related to the solemnization of a marriage, the  
4 celebration of a marriage, or the promotion of marriage through  
5 religious counseling, programs, courses, retreats, or housing  
6 designated for married individuals, and such solemnization,  
7 celebration, or promotion of marriage would cause the religious  
8 or nonprofit organization to violate the sincerely held  
9 religious beliefs to which the organization subscribes or  
10 the individual associated with the religious organization to  
11 violate the individual's sincerely held religious beliefs.  
12 The bill also provides that refusal to provide services,  
13 accommodations, advantages, facilities, goods, or privileges in  
14 accordance with the bill shall not result in the creation of  
15 a civil claim or cause of action or an action by the state to  
16 penalize or withhold benefits from such religious organization,  
17 individual, or nonprofit organization.